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Majority Leader

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House of Representatives
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Harrisburg

July 26, 2021

Office of Administration
Secretary Michael Newsome
20 Finance Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Secretary Newsome:

Act 21 of 2021 provided for an extension of the waived and suspended regulations through September 30th, 2021. These waived and suspended regulations were initiated by the March 6th, 2020, disaster emergency declaration.

When the legislature went through the process of passing Act 21, it became apparent one of the reasons for continuing the suspensions and waivers of regulations was due to administrative agencies not being prepared for regulatory reinstatement.

This letter is to serve as notice that your department should begin the process of planning for the reinstatement of those suspended or waived regulations that are pertinent to the operation, processes, and/or programs administered by your department if you have not already done so.

While Republican chairs of House standing committees are being directed by my office to thoroughly examine all waived and suspended regulations, it is incumbent upon your department and its employees to work to ensure that all regulations can be reinstated starting on, or before September 30, 2021.

In the meantime, I strongly encourage your office or designated staff to work with standing committee chairs and Executive Directors on regulatory suspensions and waivers that need to be permanently repealed or reformed.

Given the short legislative schedule facing the General Assembly prior to the September 30, 2021, deadline your cooperation in working with the legislature to ensure a smooth transition from suspensions and waivers to a reformed regulatory framework is critical to Pennsylvanians and our continued economic recovery.

Again, prepare as though all suspended and waived regulations will be reinstated, but also work with us on any that need to be permanently changed.

Thank you for your cooperation and I look forward to your continued cooperation in the management of our state government.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kerry A. Benninghoff".

Kerry Benninghoff
Majority Leader
Pennsylvania House of Representatives